



Town of Groton, Connecticut

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Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager
860-441-6630

Meeting Minutes

Town Council

Mayor Heather Bond Somers, Councilors Dean G. Antipas, Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Rita M. Schmidt, James L. Streeter, and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Somers.

Members Present: Mayor Somers, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Johnson, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Streeter and Councilor Watson

Members Absent: Councilor Flax and Councilor Schmidt

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher, Neighborhood Planner II Susan Cullen and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Salute to the Flag was led by Nancy Beckwith.

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

2012-0136 Proclamation Honoring Groton's Centenarians

Read

The proclamation was read by Councilor Streeter.

2012-0152 Proclamation Recognizing Four Paws Veterinary Services

Read

The proclamation was read by Councilor Johnson.

2012-0159 Proclamation Recognizing Randall D. Fitzmorris

Read

The proclamation was read by councilor Watson.

2012-0128 Small Cities Community Block Grant - 2012 Application

Heard at Public Hearing

Mayor Somers called a recess for the Public Hearing at 7:43 p.m.

The Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to a resolution passed by the Town Council was read by Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher.

Susan Cullen, Neighborhood Planner II, noted that the Town has received block grant funding since 1993. This grant is a revolving loan for low-income home owners, renters, and lead abatement. Administrative costs are reimbursable through this program.

There being no further comments, Mayor Somers closed the Public Hearing at 7:48 p.m.

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Alan Ackley, 99 North Road, was present with Nancy Beckwith. He noted that both are Directors of the Poquonnock Bridge Fire District Committee. Mr. Ackley stated that the Poquonnock Bridge Fire District Committee is interested in consolidating with the Town of Groton. He requested a referral to the Town Council Public Safety Committee to begin discussions.

Lamar Spruill, 20 Newport Street, Mystic, remarked that he received an attorney's letter with his sewage bill and he is concerned by the mounting legal fees. He noted that additional fees were charged for arranging a payment plan and for his conversations with the attorney. Mr. Spruill suggested that a letter stating how any additional fees are incurred should go out with the attorney's letter so that customers are aware of the process.

Genevieve Triplett, 153 Clift Street, Mystic, was present at the meeting to represent business owners located near the Mystic Streetscape Project. She remarked that communication with the Town has been poor; merchants did not receive updated schedules; the project may go beyond the deadline; and there was no warning when utilities were being shut off or turned back on.

Ross Mandell, owner of Bartleby's Cafe at 46 West Main Street, Mystic, is extremely upset with the Mystic Streetscape Project. He stated that the sidewalks are too wide, twelve parking spaces were lost, cars cannot get out of the way for emergency vehicles to pass, and construction has blocked access to his business. Four businesses have left downtown, and Mr. Mandell remarked that the project needs to end now or there will not be any customers or tourists during the critical summer months.

Mary Stanley, owner of The Velvet Swan and Velvet Swan Too, located at 11 & 13 West Main Street, Mystic, stated that the Mystic Streetscape Project has been a disaster. No one is listening to the shop owners, and if construction continues throughout the summer months she may have to close her business. Ms. Stanley tried to speak with someone from the Town and was told to write a letter with a solution. Merchants cannot survive if construction continues through August.

Donna Williston, owner of The Finer Line Gallery and Framers of the Lost Art at 48 West Main Street, Mystic, stated that shop owners have endured over the last two years and they are upset that the project may be extended. She asked Director of Planning and Development Mike Murphy if there would be one-way traffic in August and his reply was that it was possible. Ms. Williston noted that many parking spaces have been lost and people have gotten in the habit of by-passing Mystic. She would like the project to stop for the summer months and resume in September.

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Per Councilor Watson's suggestion, Mr. Spruill will get in touch with the Town Manager to specifically address his concerns.

Councilor O'Beirne stated that fire district consolidation was discussed in 2003, and it would be better to get more fire districts interested. He also encouraged Councilors to drive through the downtown Mystic area and see for themselves the narrow street and the bump-out of the sidewalks.

Councilor Johnson suggested that Director of Planning and Development Mike Murphy be asked to provide a schedule of the Mystic Streetscape Project to the Council.

Councilor Antipas agrees that it is painful to drive through downtown Mystic, and noted that the curb height may be in anticipation of more asphalt.

Mayor Somers noted that the contract for the Mystic Streetscape Project will not be extended, and she will set up a meeting between the Town Manager, the Director of Planning and Development, the downtown merchants, and herself to get updated detailed information.

2012-0177

Fire District Consolidation

FIRE DISTRICT CONSOLIDATION

Councilor Streeter requested a referral to discuss consolidating fire districts. He noted that the process would entail a petition requesting consolidation, a vote by the fire district to consolidate,

and a Town-wide referendum. The process would take three to four years.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of Minutes

2012-0165 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meetings of April 23, 2012 and May 15, 2012 are hereby accepted and approved.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

b. Administrative Items

2012-0142 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Miscellaneous - \$176.25 - Jabez Smith House

Catherine Kolnaski Magnet School PTO - \$467.58 - Social Services Discretionary

Charles Rogers - \$25.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Lee Vincent - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Charter Oak Federal Credit Union - \$400.00 - Library Miscellaneous

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2012-0048 Purchase of Spicer Properties, Thomas Road

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0130 Noank Fire District Presentation on Noank School Reuse

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0141 Port Security Grant

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0147 FYE 2012 Suspense List

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0149 Establishment of Tax Rate for General Fund (FYE 13)

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0150 Establishment of Tax Rate for Mumford Cove District Fund (FYE 13)

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0151 Establishment of Tax Rate for Groton Sewer District Fund (FYE 13)

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0153 CRIBZ Presentation on Attracting New Businesses

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0156 Establishment of Trails Coordinating Committee

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0160 Introduction of Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0161 Resolution Setting Public Hearing on Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0162 Authorization to Prepare a Bond Ordinance for Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0163 Authorization to Prepare a Bond Ordinance for Police Station Renovations

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2012-0164 Funding for OpSail 2012 Event

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

Passed The Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Antipas, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar.

The motion carried unanimously

VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

a. Town Councilors

Councilors received an email regarding fire district consolidation.

Councilor Watson attended a Groton business update meeting, the Fitch Senior High School golf tournament to benefit the senior class alcohol and drug-free graduation party, an informational presentation on Crystal Lake Road, Tip-A-Cop to benefit the Special Olympics, and Jim Streeter's presentation on his new book about Fitch High School.

Councilor Watson, along with Mayor Somers, attended the Eagle Scout Award Ceremony for Randy Fitzmorris.

Councilor Johnson attended an Economic Development Commission meeting and the Claude Chester health and wellness event.

Councilor Streeter received an email regarding school buses traveling in the area near the new paint ball field and an email regarding funding for the superintendent. He attended a Mystic Streetscape update meeting, a Submarine Veterans Memorial ceremony, and the Fitch Senior High School Honor Core ceremony. As Town Historian, he gave a presentation about Fitch High School and role-played as Morton Plant.

Mayor Somers attended a Council of Governments (COG) meeting; a meeting with the Town Manager and Waterford selectmen; a meeting with the Town Manager, State Representatives, and Pfizer Senior Vice President Rod MacKenzie; a meeting with the Town Manager and the City Mayor; the send-off of National Guard Unit Groton 1109; a Mystic Streetscape meeting; and a Joint Town Council/Board of Education meeting. She noted that the Mystic Schooners start playing June 8, 2012.

b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting

The RTM has finished its annual budget session. The next regular RTM meeting will be held on June 13, 2012.

c. Clerk of the Council

The Town Clerk represented the Council by reading the Proclamation recognizing Four Paws Veterinary Services. She reminded dog owners that they must register their dogs during the month of June.

d. Town Manager

The Town Manager reminded Councilors that a meeting is scheduled on June 16, 2012, to discuss the process/procedure for next year's budget. He noted that an educational campaign will be launched to remind citizens that there should be no alcohol at Town events. The Ordinance with

this restriction will be enforced this year, with particular emphasis on beach concerts. The Town Manager noted that a meeting regarding the state of Groton and Ledyard will be held June 20, 2012. By consensus, the July 3rd meeting of the Town Council will be cancelled.

e. Town Attorney

No report.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Schmidt

No meeting, no report.

b. Economic Development - Chairman Johnson

Councilor Johnson gave brief highlights from the meeting on May 22, 2012.

c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Watson

No meeting, no report.

d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Peruzzotti

No meeting, no report.

e. Finance - Chairman O'Beirne

No meeting, no report.

f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman Flax

No meeting, no report.

g. Public Safety - Chairman Streeter

No meeting, no report.

h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Antipas

No meeting, no report.

i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Somers

Mayor Somers noted that the Committee of the Whole discussed an update to the tax abatement program, the suspense list, tax rates, and pending litigation regarding SEAT.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. NEW BUSINESS

2012-0048 Purchase of Spicer Properties, Thomas Road

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THE SPICER PROPERTIES, THOMAS ROAD

WHEREAS, three Spicer properties on Thomas Road were identified as desirable for conservation in the 2002 Plan of Conservation and Development, and

WHEREAS, the acquisition and use of the tracts for conservation and passive recreational purposes has been endorsed by the Town's Conservation Commission and the Town's Planning Commission, and

WHEREAS, the acquisition and use of the Spicer properties would also be consistent with both the State and Regional Plans of Conservation and Development, the 2008 City of Groton Plan of Conservation and Development, the State Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Green Plan, and other related State, regional and local plans and initiatives, including but not necessarily limited to the State DEP's Long Island Sound Stewardship Initiative, the State DEP's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, the Southeastern Connecticut region's 2005 Hazard

Mitigation Plan, and the State DEP Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, and

WHEREAS, the Town has obtained grant funding and accrued funds for the purpose of land conservation through a fee in lieu of open space provision in its subdivision regulations, as well as through its capital improvement program, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Town Council has previously authorized the preparation and signing of a purchase sales agreement to purchase the Spicer properties for \$960,000, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Mark R. Oefinger, Town Manager is hereby authorized to acquire, for the sum of \$960,000 pursuant to the provisions of the previously authorized purchase sales agreement, three tracts known as the Spicer properties and identified as follows:

Tract #1

Location/PIN: 155 Thomas Road/169813033078

Ownership: Doris Pulaski (Trustee)

Tract #2

Location/PIN: 0 Thomas Road/168816937659

Ownership: William C. Spicer Jr. Estate

Tract #3

Location/PIN: 0 Thomas Road/168820918875

Ownership: William C. Spicer III

and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$650,000 of the purchase price will come from the State of Connecticut Open Space and Watershed Lands Acquisition Grant and \$310,000 will come from the Town's Open Space Fund, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$25,000 from the Town's Open Space Fund for administrative costs associated with the land purchase, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager is hereby authorized to accept the deeds for said parcels upon approval of the Town Attorney.

Refer to RTM.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted and Referred to the Representative Town Meeting, due back on July 11, 2012.

A typographical error was cited by the Town Manager. In the second resolved paragraph, \$360,000 should be changed to \$310,000.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0128

Small Cities Community Block Grant - 2012 Application

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE HOUSING REHABILITATION LOAN PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development offers competitive grants for programs that promote housing choice and economic diversity in housing, including housing for both low and moderate income households and encourage(s) the development of housing which will meet the housing needs, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton is proposing to continue the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program which has been utilized by Groton's low to moderate income residents since 1973 by providing funds to encourage safety and code compliance, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger is authorized to sign an application for the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$300,000.00 to continue to fund the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program.

A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Watson, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0130

Noank Fire District Presentation on Noank School Reuse

RESOLUTION GRANTING AN EXTENSION TO THE NOANK FIRE DISTRICT TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR REUSE OF THE FORMER NOANK SCHOOL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton's Noank School Reuse Task Force presented its final report and recommendation to the Town Council in October 2011, and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2011 the Town Council endorsed two of the three recommendations of the Task Force, specifically 1) The [Noank School] property remain publicly owned; and 2) As a publicly owned property the Noank Fire District be given a six month time frame (from the date of the resolution) to present a plan for the school and property, and

WHEREAS, at the May 8, 2012 Town Council Committee of the Whole meeting representatives of the Noank Fire District's Noank School Reuse Committee presented their ideas for reuse of the property; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council does not feel that the plan as presented is sufficient to support a long term lease of the former Noank School property to the Noank Fire District, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council gives the Noank Fire District an additional six months from the date of this resolution to develop a full and detailed multi-year plan for reuse of the Noank School including comprehensive cost estimates and financing plans/alternatives.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Antipas, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0141

Port Security Grant

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR A PORT SECURITY GRANT FOR MARINE PATROL VESSEL SUSTAINABILITY

WHEREAS, the Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) provides funds for two years to public safety and law enforcement entities to sustain necessary equipment to enhance port security and address associated homeland security issues, and

WHEREAS, the grant would fund maintenance of equipment acquired by four governmental agencies under prior PSGP grants for the purpose of detection, response and recovery from terroristic attacks, activities or incidents to the Port of New London and its surrounding waters, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Town Police plan to use the grant to sustain regional marine patrol and mission-specific, equipped and designed vessels and to be responsible to equitably disperse the funds to the other municipalities for the same purpose, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager or his designated agent may apply for the Port Security Grant

of \$25,000, of which \$6,250 would be designated for the Town of Groton Boat, for Fiscal Year 2012.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Antipas, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0147

FYE 2012 Suspense List

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE FISCAL YEAR 2012 SUSPENSE LIST

WHEREAS, State law requires that once a year a list shall be compiled of taxes that should be suspended, and

WHEREAS, the accounts which have been determined as uncollectible have been contacted at least nine times with no response, and

WHEREAS, placing uncollected items on the Suspense List helps avoid waste of money and staff time, and

WHEREAS, taxpayers remain liable for all amounts that are placed on the Suspense List, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following amounts be added to the Suspense List as reported to the Town Council:

Town: \$459,595.02

Sewer District: \$1,847.81

Mumford Cove: \$6.10

Total: \$461,448.93

A motion was made by Mayor Somers, seconded by Councilor Watson, that this matter be Adopted.

The Town Manager noted that there is still an obligation to pay these taxes, but additional mailings and attempts to contact these individuals will not be made.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0149

Establishment of Tax Rate for General Fund (FYE 13)

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TAX RATE FOR GENERAL FUND TAXES DUE ON JULY 1, 2012

WHEREAS, the Representative Town Meeting has approved a General Fund Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 providing for expenditure appropriations totaling \$120,896,368, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council estimates cash revenue exclusive of FYE 2013 property taxes will total \$41,175,494, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that \$1,589,059 is hereby appropriated as fund balance available as of July 1, 2012 to partially meet expenditure appropriations contained in the FYE 2013 General Fund budget, and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$78,131,815 is the amount that needs to be raised from property taxes, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the tax rate for taxes due July 1, 2012 is hereby established at 20.22 mills per thousand dollar of assessed valuation to raise \$78,131,815 ($\$78,131,815 \div \$3,938,277,080 \div 98.1\% \times 1,000 = 20.22$ mills).

A motion was made by Councilor Antipas, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0150 Establishment of Tax Rate for Mumford Cove District Fund (FYE 13)

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TAX RATE FOR MUMFORD COVE DISTRICT FUND DUE JULY 1, 2012

WHEREAS, the Representative Town Meeting has approved a Mumford Cove District Fund Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 providing for expenditure appropriations totaling \$21,057, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council estimated cash revenue exclusive of FYE 2013 property taxes will total \$50, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that \$300 is hereby appropriated as fund balance available as of July 1, 2012, to partially meet expenditure appropriations contained in the FYE 2013 Mumford Cove District Fund budget, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the tax rate for taxes due for the Mumford Cove District Fund on July 1, 2012 is hereby established at 0.305 mills per thousand dollar of assessed valuation to raise \$20,707 ($\$20,707 \div \$68,182,290 \div 99.7\% \times 1,000 = 0.305$ mills).

A motion was made by Councilor Johnson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0151 Establishment of Tax Rate for Groton Sewer District Fund (FYE 13)

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TAX RATE FOR GROTON SEWER DISTRICT FUND DUE JULY 1, 2012

WHEREAS, the Representative Town Meeting has approved a Groton Sewer District Fund Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 providing for expenditure appropriations totaling \$1,162,592, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council estimated cash revenue exclusive of FYE 2013 property taxes will total \$30,425, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that \$515,000 is hereby appropriated as fund balance available as of July 1, 2012, to partially meet expenditure appropriations contained in the FYE 2013 Sewer District Fund budget, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the tax rate for taxes due for the Groton Sewer District Fund on July 1, 2012 is hereby established at 0.25 mills per thousand dollar of assessed valuation to raise \$617,167 ($\$617,167 \div \$2,456,168,009$ (excluding motor vehicles) $\div 98.5\% \times 1,000 = 0.25$ mills).

A motion was made by Councilor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0156 Establishment of Trails Coordinating Committee

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A TRAILS COORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORTING TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee have recommended a Trails Coordinating Committee to bring together representatives from various groups involved in trail projects, and

WHEREAS, the Trails Coordinating Committee would be comprised of 18 voting members as follows:

Member of Parks and Recreation Commission
Member of Copp Family Park Board of Overseers/Groton Parks Foundation
Member of Pequot Woods Board of Trustees
Member of Tri-Town Trails Committee
Member of Parks and Recreation Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee
Member of Conservation Commission
Director of Parks and Recreation (who shall be chair of the committee)
Representative from Planning and Development
Representative from Parks Maintenance
Representative from Public Works
Representative from Avalonia Land Conservancy
Representative from Groton Open Space Association
At-Large Members appointed by the Town Council (2)
Representative from Board of Education
Representative from Groton Utilities
Member of Representative Town Committee
Member of Town Council

and

WHEREAS, the organizations noted above would be free to select their representatives and no term limits would be set, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the formation of a Trails Coordinating Committee, reporting to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee, with members to be appointed by the various organizations represented on the Committee.

A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0160

Introduction of Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts

INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE CHANGING AND REDEFINING THE VOTING DISTRICTS IN THE TOWN OF GROTON

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GROTON:

That Section 6-1 of the Code of Ordinances, "Voting districts", consisting of ordinances Nos. 105, 212, 217, and 254 adopted by the Town Council on October 2, 1972, February 18, 1992, March 2, 1993 and July 2, 2002, respectively, is hereby repealed, and the following ordinance is hereby enacted in lieu thereof:

1. The following areas shall hereafter constitute the Voting Districts in the Town of Groton and are hereby adopted to conform to the Congressional District Plan prepared by the Connecticut Supreme Court appointed Special Master on January 13, 2012:

FIRST VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northeast corner of this voting district at a point at the intersection of the centerline of Connecticut Route 117 and the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running southerly with the centerline of Connecticut Route 117 to a point at its intersection with the centerline of the northerly portion of Indian Field Road; thence running easterly and southerly with the centerline of Indian Field Road to Debby Drive; thence running easterly with the centerline of Debby Drive to Ring Drive; thence running northerly, easterly and southerly with the centerline of Ring Drive to U.S. Route 1; thence running easterly with the centerline of U.S. Route 1 to its intersection with the centerline of Fort Hill Brook; thence running

southerly with the centerline of Fort Hill Brook to Mumford Cove; thence running southerly with the centerline of Mumford Cove and crossing Fishers Island Sound to the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running westerly along the south boundary of the Town of Groton to its intersection with the east boundary of the City of Groton; thence running northerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Baker Cove; thence running northwesterly and northerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Baker Cove and Birch Plain Creek to an angle point in the City of Groton boundary on the south side of Poquonnock Road; thence running northwesterly along the City of Groton boundary and the south side of Poquonnock Road to an angle point in the City of Groton boundary; thence running northerly along the City of Groton boundary to its intersection with the centerline of Meridian Street Extension; thence running southeasterly and easterly with the centerline of Meridian Street Extension to U.S. Route 1; thence running northwesterly with the centerline of U.S. Route 1 to the intersection with the centerline of the southbound lane of Connecticut Route 349 (Clarence B. Sharp Highway); thence running easterly with the centerline of the southbound lane of Connecticut Route 349 (Clarence B. Sharp Highway) to its intersection with the centerline of the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp; thence running easterly with the centerline of the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp to its intersection with the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running easterly with the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95 to its intersection with the centerline of Connecticut Route 117 and the point of beginning.

All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the First Voting District of the Town of Groton.

SECOND VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northwest corner of this voting district at a point on the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line; thence running due east to the intersection of Eastern Point Road and Nicholas Avenue; thence running easterly with the centerline of Nicholas Avenue to Benham Road; thence crossing Benham Road to Hynes Avenue and continuing easterly with the centerline of Hynes Avenue to Brandegee Avenue; thence running northerly with the centerline of Brandegee Avenue to Rainville Avenue; thence running easterly and northeasterly with the centerline of Rainville Avenue to Poquonnock Road; thence running southeasterly with the centerline of Poquonnock Road to a point on the east boundary of the City of Groton; thence running southerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton to an angle point in the City of Groton boundary on the south side of Poquonnock Road; thence running southeasterly along the City of Groton boundary to the east boundary of the City of Groton; thence running southerly and southeasterly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Birch Plain Creek and Baker Cove; thence running southerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton through Baker Cove and Fishers Island Sound to the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running westerly along the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running northerly along the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line to a point due west of the intersection of Eastern Point Road and Nicholas Avenue at the point of beginning.

All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Second Voting District of the Town of Groton.

THIRD VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northwest corner of this voting district and the northwest corner of the City of Groton; thence running easterly along the north boundary of the City of Groton and the north side of Grove Avenue; thence running southeasterly, southerly and southeasterly along the northeast boundary of the City of Groton to a point in the vicinity of Meridian Street Extension; thence running southerly along the east boundary of the City of Groton on to a point in the centerline of Poquonnock Road; thence running northwesterly with the centerline of Poquonnock Road to Rainville Avenue; thence running southwesterly and westerly with the centerline of Rainville Avenue to Brandegee Avenue; thence running southerly with the centerline of Brandegee Avenue to Hynes Avenue; thence running westerly with the centerline of Hynes Avenue to Benham Road; thence crossing Benham road to Nicholas Avenue and continuing westerly with the centerline of Nicholas Avenue to Eastern Point Road; thence running due west to the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line; thence running northerly along the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line to

the northwest corner of the City of Groton and the point of beginning.

All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Third Voting District of the Town of Groton.

FOURTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northwestern corner of this voting district running along the GROTON-LEDYARD town line to the intersection of Connecticut Route 117; thence running southerly with the centerline of Connecticut Route 117; thence running westerly with the centerline of the southbound lane of Interstate Route 95 to its intersection with the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp; thence running southwesterly with the centerline of the Interstate Route 95 exit 87 southbound ramp to its intersection with U.S. Route 1; thence running southeasterly with the centerline of U.S. Route 1 to the intersection of Meridian Street Extension; thence running westerly and northwesterly with the centerline of Meridian Street Extension to its intersection with the easterly boundary of the City of Groton; thence running northerly and northwesterly along the northeast boundary of the City of Groton to a point on the north side of Grove Avenue; thence running westerly along the north boundary of the City of Groton to the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line; thence running northerly along the GROTON-NEW LONDON town line and the GROTON-WATERFORD town line to its intersection with the GROTON-LEDYARD town line to the point of beginning.

All Areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Fourth Voting District of the Town of Groton.

FIFTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northeast corner of this district and the northeast corner of the Town of Groton at a point in Hyde Pond; thence running southerly along the GROTON-STONINGTON town line through Whitford Brook and the Mystic River to its intersection with the centerline of the north bound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running westerly in the centerline of the north bound lane of Interstate 95 to its intersection with the centerline of Connecticut Route 117; thence running northerly with the centerline of Connecticut Route 117 to its intersection with the GROTON-LEDYARD town line; thence running easterly along the GROTON-LEDYARD town line to the point of beginning.

All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Fifth Voting District of the Town of Groton.

SIXTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at the northeast corner of this voting district at a point where the centerline of the north bound lane of Interstate Route 95 crosses the GROTON-STONINGTON town line in the Mystic River; thence running southerly along the GROTON-STONINGTON town line through the Mystic River to a point southeasterly of the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove; thence running northwesterly through the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove to a point in Beebe Cove west of Half Penny Island; thence running northerly in Beebe Cove to a point in line with the prolongation southeasterly of the centerline of Fishtown Road; thence running northwesterly with the prolongation of Fishtown Road, crossing Beebe Cove, the shore and Connecticut Route 215 to Fishtown Road; thence running northwesterly and northerly with the centerline of Fishtown Road to its intersection with Connecticut Route 1 and Noank Ledyard Road; thence running northerly, northerly, northeasterly and northerly with the centerline of Noank Ledyard Road to its intersection with the centerline of the north bound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running easterly with the centerline of the north bound lane of Interstate Route 95 to the GROTON-STONINGTON town line and point of beginning.

All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Sixth Voting District of the Town of Groton.

SEVENTH VOTING DISTRICT

Beginning at a point on the GROTON-STONINGTON town line southeast of the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove; thence running southerly along the GROTON-STONINGTON town line to the south boundary of the Town of Groton; thence running westerly along the south boundary of the Town of Groton to a point south of Mumford Cove; thence running northerly along the centerline of Mumford Cove to Fort Hill Brook; thence running northerly along the centerline of Fort Hill

Brook to its intersection with the centerline of U.S. Route 1; thence running westerly with the centerline of U.S. Route 1 to Ring Drive; thence running northerly, westerly and southerly with the centerline of Ring Drive to Debby Drive; thence running westerly with the centerline of Debby Drive to Indian Field Road; thence running northerly and westerly with the centerline of Indian Field Road to Connecticut Route 117; thence running northerly with the centerline of Connecticut Route 117 to its intersection with the centerline of the north bound lane of Interstate Route 95; thence running easterly with the centerline of the north bound lane of Interstate Route 95 to its intersection with the centerline of Noank Ledyard Road; thence running southerly, southwesterly and southerly with the centerline of Noank Ledyard Road to its intersection with Connecticut Route 1 and Fishtown Road; thence running southerly and southeasterly with the centerline of Fishtown Road to its intersection with Connecticut Route 215; thence running southeasterly along the prolongation southeasterly of the centerline of Fishtown Road, crossing Route 215, the shore and Beebe Cove; thence running southerly in Beebe Cove to a point west of Half Penny Island and northwesterly of the railroad bridge over Beebe Cove; thence running southeasterly in Beebe Cove through the railroad bridge to the GROTON-STONINGTON town line and point of beginning. All areas lying within the foregoing boundaries shall constitute the Seventh Voting District of the Town of Groton.

2. Changes to Districts One, Four and Five have been made as required by the 2012 Redistricting Plan enacted by the State of Connecticut.

3. By vote of the Groton Town Council, the former Districts Four and Five have been combined for the purposes of all elections, including referenda and primaries. The resulting district will henceforth be known as District Four.

4. Districts Six, Seven and Eight have been renumbered to reflect the combining of Districts Four and Five. Henceforth, District Six will be District Five; District Seven will be District Six; and District Eight will be District Seven.

Introduced by the Mayor

The Town Clerk noted that changes were made to Districts 1, 4, and 5 due to State legislation. The Town Council also requested that District 4 and the remainder of District 5 be combined.

2012-0161

Resolution Setting Public Hearing on Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts

RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE CHANGING AND REDEFINING THE VOTING DISTRICTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council will hold a public hearing on an Ordinance Changing and Redefining the Voting Districts on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in Town Hall Annex Community Room 1.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Antipas, that this matter be Adopted and Notice Sent to RTM.

The motion carried unanimously

2012-0162

Authorization to Prepare a Bond Ordinance for Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PREPARATION OF A BOND ORDINANCE AND OTHER RESOLUTIONS FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, the Town Council has reviewed a proposal to fund the maintenance and rehabilitation activities for the local road system, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council considers it appropriate to present the project to the Town's voters in a bond referendum, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town staff and the Town bond attorney are authorized to prepare a bond ordinance to be introduced by the Town Council, along with other resolutions as necessary.

Adopted.

Councilors Johnson and Antipas will be voting against this resolution, both noting the financing fees.

Mayor Somers does not want to waste staff time if the Council is not a cohesive group. She noted that there has been no paving for the last three years, and this would provide an opportunity for long-term planning. If November is too soon, this could be delayed.

Councilor Streeter does not think that the Council needs to be unanimous to move forward.

Councilor Peruzzotti noted that while there is a cost for financing, she does not want a street to get as bad as Thames Street. She supports taxpayers paying this over a number of years.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 5 - Mayor Somers, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Streeter and Councilor Watson
Opposed: 2 - Councilor Antipas and Councilor Johnson

2012-0163**Authorization to Prepare a Bond Ordinance for Police Station Renovations****RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PREPARATION OF A BOND ORDINANCE AND OTHER RESOLUTIONS FOR POLICE STATION RENOVATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Town Council has reviewed a proposal to renovate portions of the Groton Town Police Station, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council considers it appropriate to present the project to the Town's voters in a bond referendum, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town staff and the Town bond attorney are authorized to prepare a bond ordinance to be introduced by the Town Council, along with other resolutions as necessary.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., that this matter be Adopted.

Councilor Peruzzotti will not support this resolution, as she would like more time to look at the plan. She noted that there is a possibility of officers utilizing the shooting range at the SubBase.

Councilor Antipas is in favor of letting voters decide, and noted that a campaign to educate voters will be needed.

The Town Manager remarked that this resolution would allow staff and the bonding attorney to draft an ordinance. A Public Hearing would need to be held and modifications to the ordinance could be made at that time. In regard to the firing range at the SubBase, Mr. Oefinger stated that even if officers were allowed to use the facility, access could be terminated at any time.

Mayor Somers believes that this November is premature. She noted that there is a police study in process, and the Town will have a better sense of what it needs after that study is completed.

Councilors Johnson and Watson will support this resolution.

(Per Town Charter, a minimum of five affirmative votes are required.)

The motion failed by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 4 - Councilor Antipas, Councilor Johnson, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr. and Councilor Watson
Opposed: 3 - Mayor Somers, Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Streeter

2012-0164**Funding for OpSail 2012 Event**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR OPSAIL 2012 EVENT

WHEREAS, on July 6-9, 2012, New London will host the ships and most major events for Opsail 2012, which celebrates the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812, and

WHEREAS, the military community of southeastern Connecticut will be an integral part of the celebration and U.S. Navy ships will be participating in the Connecticut port call, offering full visitations for the public, and

WHEREAS, on Sunday, July 8th, the Shennecossett Yacht Club in Groton is hosting a cookout for an estimated 500 sailors participating in OpSail 2012, and

WHEREAS, Groton, as the site of the nation's first submarine base, Naval Submarine Base New London, has been asked to provide transportation for the sailors between New London and Groton for the event, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes up to \$7,000 for transportation of the OpSail 2012 sailors to and from the Shennecossett Yacht Club on July 8th, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the funds will be appropriated from encumbered funds in Legislative Policy Account #10017.

A motion was made by Councilor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 9:34 p.m. was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Antipas and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*

Lori Watrous, Office Assistant